

CURRENT LITERATURE

NOTES FOR STUDENTS

Taxonomic notes.—BECCARI¹ has monographed the palms of the Philippine Islands, recognizing 129 species in 22 genera, besides numerous varieties. Only 15 of these species have a wide distribution, and 5 are naturalized, leaving 109 endemic species. The new species are 10 in number, and *Adonidia* is established as a new genus. Much the largest genus is *Calamus*, with 36 species.

EVANS² has monographed the North American representatives of *Asterella*, "a difficult group of liverworts." A discussion of the morphological features of the genus is followed by a detailed taxonomic treatment of the 14 species, 3 of which are new.

PENNELL³ has begun a series of papers dealing with the Scrophulariaceae of Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah, and of Idaho west to the 113th meridian, based upon extensive field work and also upon critical study of herbarium material. The purpose is to give for each species its taxonomic history, its flowering season, and its distribution. The first paper deals chiefly with *Pentstemon*, in which 88 species are recognized and arranged under 19 sections, 27 of the species being described as new.

BRAUSE,⁴ in his study of Papuan Pteridophytes, describes 45 new species, chiefly in *Polypodium* (19), *Vittaria* (6), *Angiopteris* (5), and *Selaginella* (10). Of the 970 species of Pteridophytes listed, 597 are said to be endemic.

BROTHERUS,⁵ in describing WEBERBAUER'S collection of South American mosses, describes 29 new species.

PILGER,⁶ in continuing his studies of South American grasses, describes 9 new species.

¹ BECCARI, O., The palms of the Philippine Islands. *Philippine Jour. Sci.* 14: 295-362. pls. 3. 1919.

² EVANS, A. W., The North American species of *Asterella*. *Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb.* 20: 247-312. 1920.

³ PENNELL, F. W., Scrophulariaceae of the Central Rocky Mountain States. *Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb.* 20: 313-381. 1920.

⁴ BRAUSE, G., Bearbeitung der von C. LEDERMANN von der Sepik-Expedition 1912 bis 1913 und von anderen Sammlern aus dem Papuagebiete früher mitgebrachten Pteridophyten, nebst Übersicht über alle bis jetzt aus dem Papuagebiet bekannt gewordenen Arten derselben. *Bot. Jahrb.* 56: 161-250. 1920.

⁵ BROTHERUS, V. F., Musci Weberbaueriani. *Beibl. Bot. Jahrb.* 56: 1-22. 1920.

⁶ PILGER, R., Gramineae austro-americanae imprimis Weberbauerianae. V. *Beibl. Bot. Jahrb.* 56: 23-30. 1920.

RIDLEY⁷ has described two new genera of Malayan plants, namely *Peripetasma* (Menispermaceae) and *Scaphocalyx* (Flacourtiaceae).

MINOD⁸ has made a very detailed study of the American species of *Stemodia* (Scrophulariaceae), recognizing 30 species, 5 of which are described as new. Thirteen species are eliminated from the genus, and in this connection the following new genera are established: *Chodaphyton*, *Lendneria*, *Verena*, and *Valeria*.

SMITH⁹ has segregated a new genus (*Whytockia*) from *Stauranthera*, naming it for Mr. JAMES WHYTOCK, president of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh. It occurs in mountain forests of western China (Yunnan). The statement is made that recent collections show that southern and western China is rich in Gesneraceae.

Miss CURRIE¹⁰ has published a critical study of Myxomycetes, chiefly from Ontario, representing 117 species and varieties, included in 29 genera. In several cases she has uncovered new facts as to morphology, physiology, and distribution. In the list of species and varieties are included 47 not previously recorded from Ontario, 36 new to Canada, and 5 new to North America. The plasmodia of two species were observed for the first time, a number are recorded as parasitizing fungi, and others as fruiting on leaves or stems of grasses or herbs to which they are injurious in some cases. The contribution represents a valuable addition to our knowledge of this interesting group.

HITCHCOCK and Mrs. CHASE,¹¹ in continuation of their studies of North American grasses, have published a revision of four genera of Paniceae, with full descriptions, details of distribution, and analytical keys. *Ichnanthus* is tropical American and includes 10 species, 5 of which have been published recently by the authors. *Lasiacis* is also tropical American, one species extending into Southern Florida. It was segregated from *Panicum* some years ago by HITCHCOCK, and is now recognized to include 15 species, one of which is described as new. *Brachiaria* extends into the southern United States and includes 5 species, one of which is new. *Cenchrus*, widely distributed, includes 13 species. The first two genera are revised by HITCHCOCK, and the last two by Mrs. CHASE.—J. M. C.

⁷ RIDLEY, H. N., New Malayan plants. Jour. Botany 58:147-149. 1920.

⁸ MINOD, MARCEL, Contribution a l'étude du genre *Stemodia* et du groupe des Stémodiées en Amérique. Thèse no. 606. Institut de Botanique, Univ. Genève. pp. 103. figs. 41. 1918.

⁹ SMITH, W. W., *Whytockia*, a new genus of Gesneraceae. Trans. and Proc. Bot. Soc. Edinburgh 27:338, 339. pl. 7. 1919.

¹⁰ CURRIE, MARY E., A critical study of the slime-molds of Ontario. Trans. Roy. Can. Inst. 12:247-308. pls. 8-10. 1919.

¹¹ HITCHCOCK, A. S., and CHASE, AGNES, Revisions of North American grasses. Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb. 22:1-71. pls. 24. figs. 20. 1920.